

deciding. In Miss Lebour's description * of *St. triglae* the number of spines is given as lying between 42 and 56, and the spines of the anterior row are slightly longer than those of the posterior row. From a specimen of what is apparently *St. triglae* obtained at St. Andrews in *Cottus scorpius* we find that the number of spines is 50 and that the posterior spines are slightly longer than the anterior. In this specimen it was noticed that the spines of the posterior row had a tendency to diverge symmetrically from the middle line instead of being directed straight backwards, as is usually the case, but this may have been merely accidental. If the number 50 is confirmed for *St. triglae* it will obviously be easier to differentiate its cercaria from that of *St. baccatus* than from that of *St. caducus*.

The occurrence of *Stephanochasmus* cercariae encysted in various Pleuronectid fishes has already been described by Johnstone † from *Pleuronectes limanda* (recorded as *Distomum valdeinflatum*, Stoss.) and Miss Lebour ‡ from *Pl. limanda*, *Pl. microcephalus*, *Pl. cynoglossus*, and *Drepanopsetta platessoides*. As Johnstone makes no mention of the number or size of the cephalic spines it is impossible to be sure about the identity of the cercariae which he found. In Miss Lebour's specimens the number of spines varied from 48 to 58. From these observations two alternative conclusions may be drawn, either that the number of spines may vary within such wide limits in the same species or that Miss Lebour's collection included cercariae belonging to more than one species. The former is opposed to most observed facts; the latter seems much more likely. It is not at all improbable that the cercariae of *St. caducus*, *St. triglae*, and *St. baccatus* are all to be found encysted in young Pleuronectid fishes.

XXVIII.—*New Species of Dendromus and Tatera.*

By R. C. WROUGHTON.

IN a small collection of mammals made by Dr. Jameson in the Transvaal I found some specimens of a *Dendromus* which seems to require a new name; and, further, in comparing

* Northumberland Sea Fisheries Rept. for 1907, p. 27, pl. iii. figs. 3, 4.

† Rep. Lancashire Sea Fish. Investig. 1904, p. 98.

‡ Trans. Nat. Hist. Soc. Northumberland, New Series, ii. part i. p. 14, and Northumberland Sea Fish. Rep. for 1907, p. 28.

these specimens with those in the Natural History Museum, it became evident that two Nyasan forms also require names.

Dendromus jamesoni, sp. n.

A small *Dendromus* of the *pumilio* group, but with a well-marked dorsal stripe.

Fur soft and close, length 8-10 mm. on back. General colour as in *D. pumilio*, but a strongly marked, black dorsal stripe.

Dimensions of the type:—

Head and body 60 mm.; tail 78; hind foot 16; ear 13.

Skull: greatest length 20·5; basilar length 15; zygomatic breadth 11; brain-case breadth 10; nasals length 7·2; diastema 5; upper molar series 3·1.

Hab. Zoutpansberg, Transvaal.

Type. Adult female. B.M. no. 9. 1. 20. 27. Original number 135. Collected 6th July, 1907, by Dr. H. L. Jameson.

Seven specimens examined.

Dendromus whytei, sp. n.

A small *Dendromus* of the *pumilio* group, rather smaller and slighter than either *pumilio* or *jamesoni*, with an obsolescent dorsal stripe.

Colour above as in *pumilio* and *jamesoni*, but the dorsal stripe of the latter obsolescent or absent. Under surface white, but usually much suffused with ochraceous. Ears small.

Skull more delicately formed, narrower across the palate than in *jamesoni*.

Dimensions of the type:—

Head and body (c.) 60 mm.; tail (c.) 85; hind foot 17; ear 11.

Skull: greatest length 20; basilar length 15; zygomatic breadth 11; brain-case breadth 10·5; nasals length 8; diastema 5; upper molar series 3·1.

Hab. Nyasa (type from Fort Hill).

Type. Old male. B.M. no. 97. 10. 1. 131. Original number H. J. 117. Collected by Mr. A. Whyte, and presented to the Natural History Museum by Sir H. H. Johnston, K.C.B.

Twelve specimens examined, from Nyika Plateau, Zomba, and Mt. Malosa; in almost all there is a perceptible darkening along the mid-dorsum, but in only one is there an appreciable black stripe.

The known members of this *pumilio* group may be arranged in a key as follows:—

- A. A well-marked dorsal stripe. (Transvaal.).. *jamesoni*, sp. n.
- B. Dorsal stripe absent or obsolescent.
 - a. Dorsal stripe absent. Ear=11 mm.
(Nyasa.) *whytei*, sp. n.
 - b. Dorsal stripe absent.
 - a¹. Size smaller. Skull 18·5 mm. Ear=10 mm. (Angola.) *ansorgei*, Thos. & Wr.
 - b¹. Size larger. Skull 20–21 mm.
 - a². Ears large, 15 mm. Colour paler.
(Cape Peninsula.) *pumilio*, Wagner.
 - b². Ears smaller, 12 mm. Colour darker.
(Cameroons.) *messorius*, Thos.

Dendromus nyikæ, sp. n.

A *Dendromus* of the *D. mesomelas* type, with a claw on the fifth toe. Rather smaller than that species, with a proportionally much shorter tail and smaller ears.

Size rather smaller than *D. mesomelas*. Fur rather short (9–10 mm. on back). Colour near to “fawn-colour” above, pure white below; dorsal stripe well-marked from the shoulders backwards. Hands and feet white. Ears small; tail short as compared with *Mesomelas*.

Dimensions:—

Head and body (c.) 70 mm.; tail (c.) 85; hind foot 18; ear 12.

Skull: greatest length 23; basilar length 17; zygomatic breadth 12; brain-case breadth 10·1; nasals length 8·8; diastema 5·5; upper molar series 3·6.

Hab. Nyika Plateau, British Central Africa.

Type. Adult female. B.M. no. 97. 10. 1. 123. Original number H. J. 7. Collected by Mr. A. Whyte in June 1896, and presented, with four others besides spirit-specimens, to the Natural History Museum by Sir H. H. Johnston.

The short tail, small ears, and the bluish or drab tint in its colouring suffice to distinguish this species easily from *D. mesomelas*, and, à fortiori, from *D. insignis*.

It is curious that two of the series of five specimens taken at the same time and place, and not otherwise differing in any way, have the bases of the hairs of the belly of a dark slate-colour, while in the type and the other two specimens the corresponding hairs are white to their bases.

Unfortunately no measurements were recorded by Mr. Whyte, and I have been obliged to base those given above on a spirit-specimen taken at the same time and place.

The following is a key to the known species of the *mesomelas* group. I exclude *pallidus*, Heuglin, and *mysticalis*, Heuglin, from Somaliland, about which information is not available, even as to whether they should be classed with *D. mesomelas* or *D. melanotis*.

- A. Size rather larger, hind foot=21-22 mm.; ear larger,=15 mm. Dorsal stripe very strongly marked. (British East Africa.) *D. insignis*, Thos.
- B. Size smaller, hind foot 18-20 mm.
 - a. Ear larger, 15 mm.; tail longer, 100-105 mm. (Cape to Natal.) *D. mesomelas*, Brants.
 - b. Ear smaller, 12 mm.; tail shorter, 85-90 mm. (N. Nyasa.) *D. nyikæ*, sp. n.

Tatera smithi, sp. n.

A *Tatera* closely resembling *T. lodon* in proportions and colouring, but differing in its long posterior palatal foramina and extraordinarily broad brain-case.

Dimensions of the type:—

Head and body 155 mm.; tail 145; hind foot 34.5; ear 20.

Skull: greatest length 42 (c.); basilar length 34.5; interorbital breadth 7.4; brain-case breadth 18.6; anterior palatal foramina 8.2; posterior palatal foramina 3.6; diastema 12; upper molar series 6.8.

Hab. Mubende, Unyoro.

Type. Old female. B.M. no. 7. 10. 1. 14. Original number 34. Collected and presented to the National Collection by Mr. L. M. Seth-Smith, 23rd March, 1908. Two specimens.

T. smithi, while closely resembling in general facies *T. lodon* from Lake Mweru, has the long posterior palatal foramina so characteristic of the northern forms from Egypt and Somali.

XXIX.—*Notes on the Forficularia.*—XV. *The Esphalmeninæ.* By MALCOLM BURR, B.A., F.E.S., F.L.S., F.Z.S., &c.

IN 1901 Verhoeff (SB. Ges. naturf. Fr. no. 1, p. 7) formed the family Gonolabidæ, the essential character being the form of the prosternum, which is strongly narrowed posteriorly.